

Receipt date: 04/04/2006

10574663 - GAU: 4131  
**10/574663**  
IAP20 Rec'd PFCur10 04 APR 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application  
Thomas GIERING et al.**

**Examiner: Unassigned**

**DO/EO/US**

**Serial Number: Unassigned**

**Filed: Herewith**

**Attorney Docket No.: GIER3007/JEK**

**For: DOCUMENT OF VALUE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.51(b), §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified is submitted herewith, except that (1) a copy of any U.S. patent application identified herein or any patent, publication or other information listed herein cited or submitted in a prior application relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120 and identified below, is not submitted herewith, and (2) a copy of any U.S. patent or published patent application identified herein is not submitted herewith, if this application was filed or entered the U.S. national stage on or after June 30, 2003 (or if applicable, this international application entered the U.S. national stage on or after June 30, 2003).

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /L.D./

Inventor: Thomas GIERING et al.  
Attorney Docket: GIER3007/JEK

**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION NOT LISTED ON  
ACCOMPANYING FORM PTO-1449 SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION**

International Search Report dated March 9, 2005 established in International Application No. PCT/EP2004/011132, of which this application is the U.S. national stage.

**CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY  
(NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS ONLY)**

The documents EP 1 158 459; U.S. 4,451,521; U.S. 4,442,170 and EP 1 237 128 are listed in the appended International Search Report dated March 9, 2005, established in International Application No. PCT/EP2004/011132, of which this application is the U.S. national stage. The relevancy of each of these documents is evident from the search report.

The remaining documents listed on the appended PTO-1449 form are mentioned in the written description of this application, from which the relevancy of each document will be evident.

**STATEMENT REGARDING CUMULATIVE INFORMATION**

U.S. 2004/031931 corresponds to EP 1 158 459.

U.S. 2004/061048 corresponds to EP 1 237 128.

**STATEMENT REGARDING TRANSLATIONS**

Translations of non-English language documents are not available to Applicants' attorney apart from English language abstracts that may be appended to the documents or corresponding U.S. published patent applications identified herein.

**STATEMENT OF TIMELINESS**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of (i) the filing date of the above-identified U.S. National Patent application, or (ii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the above-identified International Application, or

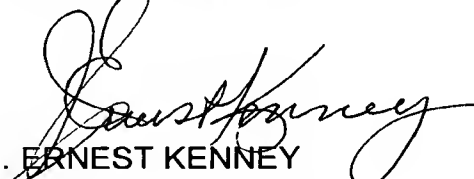
Inventor: Thomas GIERING et al.  
Attorney Docket: GIER3007/JEK

**AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 APR 2006**

(iii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the International Application that has been assigned the above-identified U.S. Patent application number, whichever applies.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted,  
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

  
J. ERNEST KENNEY  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 19,179

Customer **23364**

**BACON & THOMAS, PLLC**  
625 Slaters Lane - 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Alexandria, VA 22314-1176  
Telephone: (703) 683-0500  
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

Date: April 4, 2006

Receipt date: 04/04/2006

10574663 - GAU: 4131

10574663 - GAU: 4131 04 APR 2006

Customer 23364

Sheet 1 of 1

B/O Form PTO-1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant	Atty. Docket Number	Serial Number
	GIER3007/JEK	10/574663
	Applicant	
	Thomas GIERING et al.	
Filing Date	Group	
Herewith	Unassigned	

## U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Patentee/Applicant	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
/L.D./	4,442,170	04/10/1984	KAULE et al.			
/L.D./	4,451,521	05/29/1984	KAULE et al.			
/L.D./	2004/0031931	02/19/2004	MÜLLER et al.			
/L.D./	2004/0061048	04/01/2004	VASIC et al.			

## Foreign Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Country/Agency	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
/L.D./	WO 81/03508	12/10/1981	WIPO				X
/L.D./	WO 02/070279	09/12/2002	WIPO				X
/L.D./	EP 0 052 624	06/02/1982	EUROPE				X
/L.D./	EP 0 053 124	06/09/1982	EUROPE				X
/L.D./	EP 0 659 935	06/28/1995	EUROPE				X
/L.D./	DE 101 20 818	10/31/2002	GERMANY				X

## Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)


Examiner	/Laura Dettinger/	Date Considered	04/21/2011
----------	-------------------	-----------------	------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /L.D./